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11	Jesse Anthony Ramirez		
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13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
14	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA		
15	WEST	TERN DIVISION	
16			
17	Jesse Anthony Ramirez,	Case No.:	
18	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES	
19			
20	VS.	FOR VIOLATIONS OF: 1. THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER	
21	Navient Solutions, LLC,	PROTECTION ACT;	
22 23	Defendant.	2. THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT	
24		JURY TRIAL DEMANDED	
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Plaintiff, Jesse Anthony Ramirez (hereafter "Plaintiff"), by undersigned counsel, brings the following complaint against Navient Solutions, Inc. (hereafter "Defendant") and alleges as follows:

# **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This action arises out of Defendant's repeated violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.* ("TCPA"), and repeated violations of the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788, *et seq.* ("Rosenthal Act").
- 2. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3), Cal. Civ. Code 1788.30(f), 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), where the acts and transactions giving rise to Plaintiff's action occurred in this district and/or where Defendant transacts business in this district.

# **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff is an adult individual residing in Bell Gardens, California, and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39) and Cal Civ. Code § 1788.2(g).
  - 5. Plaintiff is a "debtor" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(h).
- 6. Defendant is a business entity located in Reston, Virginia, and is a "person" as the term is defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(39) and Cal Civ. Code § 1788.2(g).

7. Defendant, in the ordinary course of business, regularly, on behalf of itself or others, engages in the collection of consumer debts, and is a "debt collector" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c).

### **ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS**

- 8. Plaintiff is a natural person allegedly obligated to pay a debt asserted to be owed to Defendant.
- 9. Plaintiff's alleged obligation arises from a transaction in which property, services or money was acquired on credit primarily for personal, family or household purposes and is a "consumer debt" as defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(f).
- 10. At all times mentioned herein where Defendant communicated with any person via telephone, such communication was done via Defendant's agent, representative or employee.
- 11. At all times mentioned herein, Plaintiff utilized a cellular telephone service and was assigned the following telephone number: 562-XXX-8749 (hereafter "Number").
- 12. Defendant placed calls to Plaintiff's Number in an attempt to collect a debt.
- 13. The aforementioned calls were placed using an automatic telephone dialing system ("ATDS") and/or by using an artificial or prerecorded voice ("Robocalls").

- 14. When Plaintiff answered Defendant's calls, he was met with a significant period of silence prior to Defendant's automated system dropping the call.
- 15. On or about December 7, 2016, Plaintiff spoke with Defendant, demanding that Defendant stop the calls and requesting that Defendant communicate with him via US mail only.
- 16. Plaintiff also stated that his Number was utilized primarily for work purposes.
- 17. Despite Plaintiff's unequivocal request, Defendant continued calling Plaintiff's Number using an ATDS in an excessive and harassing manner.
- 18. Defendant's calls directly and substantially interfered with Plaintiff's right to peacefully enjoy a service that Plaintiff paid for and caused Plaintiff to suffer a significant amount of anxiety, frustration, and annoyance.

# **COUNT I**

# VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 47 U.S.C. § 227, et seq.

- 19. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 20. The TCPA prohibits Defendant from using, other than for emergency purposes, an ATDS and/or Robocalls when calling Plaintiff's Number absent Plaintiff's prior express consent to do so. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).

- 21. Defendant's telephone system has the earmark of using an ATDS in that Plaintiff, upon answering calls from Defendant, heard silence prior to Defendant's telephone system dropping the call.
- 22. Defendant called Plaintiff's Number using an ATDS without Plaintiff's consent in that Defendant either never had Plaintiff's prior express consent to do so or such consent was effectively revoked when Plaintiff requested that Defendant cease all further calls.
- 23. Defendant continued to willfully call Plaintiff's Number using an ATDS knowing that it lacked the requisite consent to do so in violation of the TCPA.
- 24. Plaintiff was harmed and suffered damages as a result of Defendant's actions.
- 25. The TCPA creates a private right of action against persons who violate the Act. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).
- 26. As a result of each call made in violation of the TCPA, Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages.
- 27. As a result of each call made knowingly and/or willingly in violation of the TCPA, Plaintiff may be entitled to an award of treble damages.

# **COUNT II**

VIOLATIONS OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788, et seq.

- 28. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 29. The Rosenthal Act was passed to prohibit debt collectors from engaging in unfair and deceptive acts and practices in the collection of consumer debts.
- 30. Defendant caused Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously to annoy Plaintiff, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(d).
- 31. Defendant communicated with Plaintiff with such frequency as to be unreasonable, constituting harassment, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.11(e).
- 32. Defendant did not comply with the provisions of 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*, in violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.17.
- 33. Plaintiff was harmed and is entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's violations.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant for:

- A. Statutory damages of \$500.00 for each call determined to be in violation of the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C.§ 227(b)(3);
- B. Treble damages for each violation determined to be willful and/or knowing under the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C.§ 227(b)(3);
- C. Actual damages pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(a);

1	D. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for knowingly and willfully committing		
2	violations pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30(b);		
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4	E. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Cal. Civ.		
5	Code § 1788.30(c);		
6	F. Punitive damages; and		
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8	G. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.		
9 10	TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS		
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13	DATED: June 27, 2017	TRINETTE G. KENT	
14		By: /s/ Trinette G. Kent	
15		Trinette G. Kent, Esq.	
16		Lemberg Law, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff, Jesse Anthony	
17		Ramirez	
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